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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A61L 15/26, 15/58	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/61077 (43) International Publication Date: 2 December 1999 (02.12.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/SE99/00903 (22) International Filing Date: 27 May 1999 (27.05.99) (30) Priority Data: 9801899-7 28 May 1998 (28.05.98) SE (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MÖLNLYCKE HEALTH CARE AB [SE/SE]; S-405 03 Göteborg (SE). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): ARESKOU, Stefan [SE/SE]; Violinvägen 15, S-435 44 Mölnlycke (SE). LINDQUIST, Bengt, W. [SE/SE]; Ryd Västergårdsvägen 30, S-443 51 Lerum (SE). (74) Agents: HYLNER, Jan-Olof et al.; Göteborgs Patentbyrå Dahls AB, P.O. Box 606, S-182 16 Danderyd (SE).	(81) Designated States: CA, CN, JP, PL, RU, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>In English translation (filed in Swedish).</i>	
<p>(54) Title: WOUND DRESSING</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>The present invention relates to a wound dressing that includes a carrier layer which is coated on one side with an adhesive elastomer (3). According to the invention, the carrier layer has the form of a laminate which consists of a plastic film (1) and a material (2) that has an irregular surface structure.</p> <div data-bbox="678 1134 1266 1407"></div>		

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wound dressing

The present invention relates to a wound dressing or an affixing tape for skin applications
5 that includes a carrier layer which is coated on one side with an adhesive elastomer.

Thin adhesive wound dressings made from a plastic film that is permeable to water vapor,
for instance OpSite® (Smith & Nephew, England) or Tegaderm® (3M, USA), include an
acrylate-type adhesive or an adhesive that has similar properties. When repeatedly applied
10 and removed, such adhesives are apt to remove with them parts of the upper skin layer (the
stratum corneum) and dressings of this nature can result in skin damage. These adhesives
also fasten strongly to hairs on the skin, therewith causing pain and discomfort when
removing the dressing.

15 Also known to the art is a gauze bandage designated Mepitel®, which is affixed to the
skin by means of a very soft adhesive silicone elastomer. A silicone elastomer has skin-
friendly adhesive properties and is much more gentle to the skin than the aforesaid
adhesives. Neither does it tend to strip away parts of the stratum corneum as it is removed.
The person wearing such a dressing will not experience discomfort or pain as the dressing
20 is removed. The adhesiveness of the silicone elastomer is not impaired by removal of the
dressing, and the dressing can therefore be removed and replaced several times.

Consequently it would be beneficial if the adhesives used with plastic film dressings could
be replaced with an adhesive elastomer that has adhesive characteristics similar to those of
25 the silicone elastomers used with Mepitel®, particularly when the dressing is to be placed
over sensitive skin. One serious problem in this regard is that such elastomers have been
found to adhere to the skin with the same strength as that to which they adhere to the
plastic film, and consequently there is a serious risk of the elastomer layer, or large parts
thereof, remaining on the skin when attempting to remove the dressing.

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One object of the present invention is to solve this problem and to provide a functional film
dressing that includes a layer of soft, adhesive elastomer.

This object is achieved in accordance with the invention by means of a wound dressing or an affixing tape for skin applications which includes a carrier layer that is coated with a soft, adhesive elastomer on one side thereof and which is characterized in that the carrier layer is a laminate that consists of plastic film and a material of irregular surface structure.

- 5 Because the soft, adhesive elastomer is fastened to the plastic film via the material of irregular surface structure, the elastomer will be anchored more strongly to the film than would otherwise be the case, therewith avoiding the danger of the elastomer remaining on the skin when removing the dressing.

- 10 In one preferred embodiment of the invention, the material of irregular surface structure is comprised of nonwoven material, and the soft, adhesive elastomer is comprised of a silicone elastomer.

The invention will now be described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a schematic cross-sectional view of one embodiment of an inventive wound dressing; and

Figure 2 illustrates a test body for determining softness.

- 20 The plastic film wound dressing shown in Figure 1 includes a layer 1 of plastic film, a thin layer 2 of non-woven material laminated to the plastic film, and a layer 3 of silicone elastomer.

- 25 The plastic film is preferably comprised of a polyurethane film that is permeable to water vapor, although other plastic film materials may be used. The non-woven layer has been glued to the plastic film, by heat calendering or in some other appropriate way. The elastomeric layer 3 has been produced by applying a silicone-elastomer mixture to the laminate 1,2 from above with the nonwoven layer facing upwards, said mixture being applied in an amount sufficient to fill completely the fibre structure in said non-woven
- 30 material and so that surplus elastomer mixture will form a smooth, even surface on top of the laminate. The laminate with its applied layer of elastomer mixture has then been heated until the elastomer mixture has cured to form an elastomer. Because the silicone elastomer extends through all of the free spaces between the fibres in the non-woven material, the elastomer will be anchored effectively in the laminate. Although the illustrated dressing is

shown to include three distinct layers, it will be understood from the foregoing that the silicone elastomer extends through the fibre structure of the layer 2 and up to the plastic film layer 1.

- 5 The silicone elastomer is preferably an elastomer retailed under the name Silgel 612 and manufactured by Wacker Chemie GmbH, Germany. Other soft, adhesive silicone elastomers may also be used. Although silicone elastomers are preferred because of the good properties of the silicone in respect of wound care, other soft adhesive elastomers that are skin friendly may also be used, such as hydrogels or soft adhesive hot melt glue.

10

As beforementioned, the fibre structure of non-woven material provides effective anchoring of the elastomer and is preferred as the anchoring layer. However, other materials that have an irregular surface structure, such as fine-mesh net material, open-structure textile material, thin foam material having open pores, and corresponding

- 15 materials, can provide sufficiently effective anchoring of the elastomer.

By definition plastic film has a thickness of 5-100 mm, and the anchoring layer will preferably have a weight per unit area of 5-100 g/m², preferably 15-25 g/m², so as to ensure that the laminate consisting of the plastic film and the anchoring layer will have the

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suppleness required .

The wound dressing may, of course, be perforated, especially if it includes an overlaying absorbent pad.

- 25 It shall also be possible to sterilise the dressing by means of some conventional sterilisation method, e.g. b-sterilisation, steam sterilisation or sterilisation with ethylene oxide.

The expression "skin-friendly adhesion" is used in this document to characterise a particular form of adhesion exhibited by the soft adhesive elastomers suited for use with

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Different types of self-adhering glues having relatively similar properties are used normally on adhesive dressings and surgical plasters of different kinds. A common feature of the glues normally used is that they adhere to the outermost layer of dead skin cells (stratum corneum) with such firmness that a number of layers of these cells will be

stripped from the skin by the glue as the adhesive dressing is removed. The glues used at present are most often acrylate-type glues, although hot melt glues and polyisobuthylene glues are also often used. In the case of skin-friendly glues, the penetration - which constitutes a measurement of softness - shall lie within the range of 7-20 mm, whereas

5 corresponding values for those glues that are normally used with adhesive dressing are less than 3 mm. Penetration is measured by means of a method based on ASTM D 937 and D 51580. Certain modifications are made. The equipment used is a penetrometer PNR 10, Sommer & Runge KG, Germany. A test body weighing 62.5 g and comprising a cone weighing 15 g and bearing article number 18-0122 and a rod weighing 47.5 g and bearing

10 the article number 18-0042 was placed in the penetrometer vertically above a cylindrical cup containing the material to be tested, with the apex of the cone touching the surface of the test material. The test body was then allowed to fall freely down into the cylindrical cup. The extent to which the test body had penetrated the test material was measured after a time lapse of 5 seconds. The cylindrical cup had a diameter of 50 mm and a height of 30

15 mm. The cup was filled with test material to a level of 25 mm.

The soft elastomers having skin-friendly adhesive properties used in accordance with the present invention had considerably weaker adhesive bonds to the skin than the glues normally used with adhesive dressings. Consequently, elastomers that have skin-friendly

20 adhesive properties leave the stratum corneum essentially intact when dressings containing such elastomers are peeled or pulled away. In spite of the lower adhesive bonds, the elastomers nevertheless create secure and positive adhesion, i.e. there is small risk of the dressing loosening by itself, by virtue of the fact that the softness of the elastomer causes it to flow down into the skin and therewith provide a wide effective contact surface. The

25 softness of the elastomer also results in the build-up of a large amount of energy in the elastomer and its carrier when removing the dressing, which also results in more positive adhesion to the skin.

An experiment was carried out on ten voluntary test persons with the intention of

30 measuring the stripping effect, by which is meant, the extent to which the surface of the dressing had become covered with cells as a result of stripping-off the dressing. Four different types of plaster/dressings were used, these being Duoderm®, OpSite®, Leukopore® and an elastomer-coated (200 g/m²) non-woven tape. The soft elastomer having skin-friendly adhesive properties was a silicone type elastomer. Three test samples

of each product type were applied to each test person and left in place for 24 hours. The stripping effect was recorded, by coloring the stratum corneum cells present on the surface of the removed dressings selectively with toluidine, whereafter the percentage of the surface covered by cells was determined.

5

The results are evident from the table below:

Plaster/dressing number of dressings with stripping				
within the range				
10	<1%	-10%	3	11%
	Duoderm®	0/30	0/30	30/30
	OpSite®	0/30	0/30	30/30
	Leukopore®	10/30	16/30	4/30
	silicone tape	27/30	3/30	0/30

15

In order to be "skin-friendly adhesive", an adhesive dressing shall have a stripping effect of maximum 10% in the case of normal skin.

Because a dressing that includes a skin-friendly adhesive elastomer will only carry with it a very limited number of stratum corneum cells as the dressing is removed, the surface of the elastomer layer will be relatively unchanged after removal of the dressing. This enables a dressing of this nature to be re-applied, since its adhesiveness has not been impaired to any appreciable extent. The adhesive surface of a dressing which pulls stratum corneum cells from the skin will be substantially covered with the cells subsequent to its removal. This means that dressings of this nature will fail to stick to the skin when attempting to re-apply the dressings. Duoderm®, OpSite® and Leukopore® lose from 70 to 100% of their adhesiveness, whereas skin-friendly adhesive dressings lose less than 10%.

In order for an adhesive dressing or adhesive plaster to function effectively, the force with which it adheres to the skin must exceed the load to which the dressing or plaster is subjected during normal use. It has been found that there is generally required in this respect an adhesive force which exceeds 0,5 N measured when peeling or stripping from the skin a tape measuring 25 mm in width and angled at 135°, so that the danger of the

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5 dressing loosening by itself will not be unacceptably high. The adhesive force will preferably exceed 0.8 N/25 mm.

The adhesive force of Duoderm®, OpSite® and Leukopore® was measured at 1.2, 2.2 and 5 0.8 N/25 mm respectively with tape applied to the backs of healthy test persons and left in place for 24 hours. The silicone tape used in the stripping test above had a skin adhesion strength of 1.5 N/25 mm.

Claims

1. A wound dressing or an affixing tape for skin applications comprising a carrier layer that
5 is coated on one side with an adhesive elastomer (3) that has skin-friendly adhesive
properties, characterized in that the carrier layer (1,2) is a laminate which comprises plastic
film (1) and material (2) that has an irregular surface structure.
2. A wound dressing according to Claim 1, characterized in that the material (2) of
10 irregular surface structure is a so-called non-woven material.
3. A wound dressing according to any one of Claims 1-2, characterized in that the adhesive
elastomer (3) is a silicone elastomer.
- 15 4. A wound dressing according to any one of Claims 1-3, characterized in that the dressing
is perforated.
5. A wound dressing according to Claim 4, characterized in that said dressing includes an
absorbent pad.

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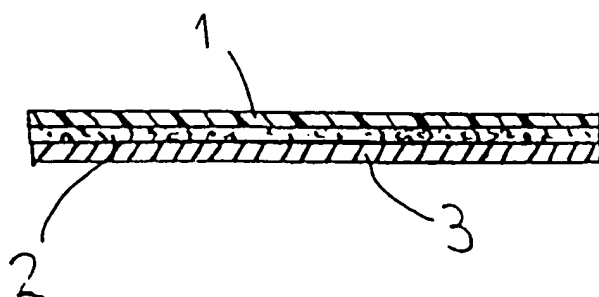


FIG. 1

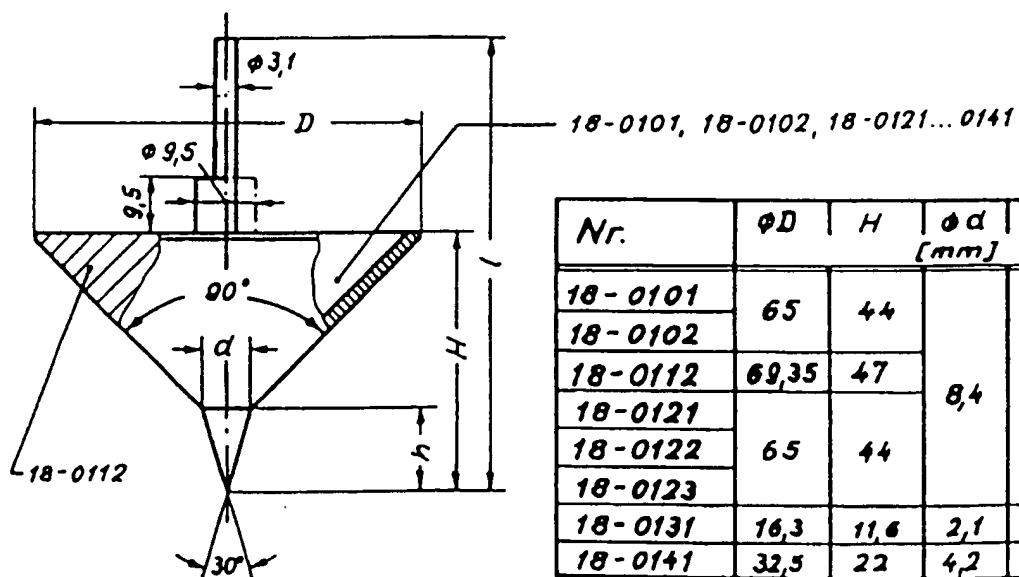


FIG. 2

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/SE 99/00903

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC6: A61L 15/26, A61L 15/58
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC6: A61L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 8705206 A1 (MÖLNLYCKE AB), 11 Sept 1987 (11.09.87) --	1-5
A	WO 9014109 A1 (SMITH & NEPHEW PLC), 29 November 1990 (29.11.90) --	1-5
A	WO 9609076 A1 (MÖLNLYCKE AB), 28 March 1996 (28.03.96) --	1-5
A	WO 9742985 A1 (SCA MÖLNLYCKE AB), 20 November 1997 (20.11.97) -- -----	1-5

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family |
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

30 August 1999

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Information on patent family members

02/08/99

International application No.

PCT/SE 99/00903

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